

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<b>(1) DEPARTMENT</b> Behavioral Health	<b>(2) MEETING DATE</b> 7/24/2012	<b>(3) CONTACT/PHONE</b> Darci Rourke 805-788-2156	
<b>(4) SUBJECT</b> Request to approve a renewal contract for FY 2012-13 with Central Coast Link (The Link) (Clerk's File), to provide prevention and early intervention behavioral health services to Middle School students and their families throughout the county, in the amount not to exceed \$141,892.			
<b>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION</b> It is recommended that the Board approve a renewal contract for FY 2012-13 with Central Coast Link (The Link), to provide prevention and early intervention behavioral health services to Middle School students and their families throughout the county, in the amount not to exceed \$141,892.			
<b>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)</b> Mental Health Services Act	<b>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> \$141,892	<b>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> \$141,892	<b>(9) BUDGETED?</b> Yes
<b>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
<b>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
<b>(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)</b> 19001179		<b>(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?</b> BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<b>(14) LOCATION MAP</b> N/A	<b>(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?</b> No	<b>(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date <u>June 21, 2011</u> Item <u>A-17</u>	
<b>(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW</b> Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
<b>(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)</b> All Districts -			

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director  
Karen Baylor, Ph.D., MFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: 7/24/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal contract for FY 2012-13 with Central Coast Link (The Link) (Clerk's File), to provide prevention and early intervention behavioral health services to Middle School students and their families throughout the county, in the amount not to exceed \$141,892.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board approve a renewal contract for FY 2012-13 with Central Coast Link (The Link), to provide prevention and early intervention behavioral health services to Middle School students and their families throughout the county, in the amount not to exceed \$141,892.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is dedicated to transforming the public mental health system and seeks to reduce the long-term adverse impact from untreated serious mental illness. MHSA funds are divided into five distinct components, and one of the components is Prevention and Early Intervention.

As required by the MHSA statutes, the local PEI Community planning team is responsible for guiding the planning process, analyzing community input, and selecting projects in accordance with community priorities. Recommendations included the Middle School Comprehensive Program. This prevention and early intervention project is designed to build wellness and resiliency and reduce risk factors and stressors middle school students.

On February 29, 2012, the community planning team was presented with the successful results of the first two years of PEI programs, and decided to continue the Middle School Comprehensive Program.

The contract renewal will continue to provide Family Advocates to the following six county Middle Schools, as part of the program:

- Flamson Middle School
- Santa Lucia Middle School
- Atascadero Junior High School and Fine Arts Academy
- Los Osos Middle School
- Judkins Middle School
- Mesa Middle School

The program focuses on at risk students who are referred to participate in the program due to poor attendance, academic failure, and disciplinary referrals. The Family Advocates coordinate case management, referral services, and intervention services to at-risk families and youth. Family Advocates provide youth and their families with access to resources in the county including job development, health care, clothing, food, tutoring, parent education, and referrals to treatment.

The Mental Health Services Act Annual Plan that was adopted by your Board July 17, 2012 included this program and funding level.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The identification of this and other MHSA PEI programs involved collaboration and review by mental health stakeholders through the PEI planning process and by the local community planning team.

County Counsel has approved the contracts as to form and legal effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The FY 2012-13 Adopted Budget includes funding for The Link at \$145,000 and is sourced from the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Trust Fund. There is no increase from the FY 2011-12 contract amount, which was also \$141,892.

### **RESULTS**

The primary goal of the Middle School Comprehensive Program is to build resiliency and identify mental health issues early. The contract with The Link provides family advocates who provide continued support and service for each of the six middle schools participating in this program. Family advocates are highly successful in other human services agencies and school systems throughout the county and are often considered the key to a person's success in overcoming difficult times and situations.

On February 29th, 2012 San Luis Obispo County Behavioral Health Staff conducted a focus group with parents of children who had received services through the The Link. Some very inspiring outcomes were shared by the clients. A 7<sup>th</sup> grade male was struggling in school and at home, and he was referred into the PEI Middle School Program due to his grades where a deeper issue was uncovered that he was a victim of bullying. The Link Family Advocate facilitated a meeting between the principal and the family to make sure that protective factors and interventions were put into place to keep him safe in the classroom and on the playground. As a result, the boy's grades improved as well as his emotional well-being and relationships with his siblings.

A mother of two junior high school students shared: "I am so thankful the Link is here. I didn't know about it before...I can go to my advocate and get information, support, and access to services. The Link does not leave us behind."

During FY 2011-12, The Link introduced a new electronic record keeping system which allowed the family advocate to more accurately record their outreach and engagement efforts. Over 600 contacts provided information, education, and referrals as a prevention level activity which exceeded the target of 350. The Link provided case management services for 125 cases, which met the target.

75% of managed cases (94 students) showed improvement in grades, attendance, or referrals. The Link is expected to continue to provide the same level of service in Fiscal Year 2012-13.

Continuation of this program will help the Behavioral Health Department achieve its goal of increasing protective factors and reducing risk factors of at-risk middle school youth and their families. Promotion of positive mental health, and prevention and early intervention services and reduces the negative impact of mental illness and contributes to the desired community wide goal of a safe, healthy, and livable community.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Clerk's Filed Coversheet Central Coast Link FY 2012-13